



SAN CONNECTIONS

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Call for Papers !

2007 Pennsylvania Stormwater Management Symposium



**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION
MOVING TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY**

**VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY
October 17-18, 2007**

Abstracts Due: May 30, 2007
Extended Abstracts Due: Aug. 15, 2007
Workshop: Oct. 16, 2007
Symposium: Oct. 17-18, 2007

MISSION STATEMENT: The purpose of the symposium is to advance the knowledge and understanding of sustainable stormwater management for those dealing in all aspects of planning, design, construction, maintenance and operations, and regulatory compliance. A half-day workshop for non-engineers will be held preceding the symposium.

QUESTIONS?

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Where's Dennis Reardon?

Former Berks County Conservancy employee and SAN Member, Dennis Reardon has learned the war reconstruction game quickly and he is now a regional governor in northern Iraq. He has palace guards numbering at 100 and is catered to by his own harem who feed him hummus, melons, and figs all day long. He has recently been saying that it is "good to be king." Dennis, the man who would be king.

In reality, Dennis finished his original assignment in northern Iraq and is now located outside Baghdad in the war zone. He lives and works in a guarded bunker and his assignment is a continuation of the deconstructing of damaged sewage plants and of reconstructing new ones.

His current assignment will be completed this spring. He is looking for a new assignment in Iraq as the remuneration is extremely lucrative and his engineering skills are rekindled. When he is in the neighborhood, he is always pleased to hear that the SAN folks are interested in his well being and he says hello and thank you to you all. ❖



Photo Courtesy of Kristie Fach

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SAN Agricultural Technical Workgroup

The role of this workgroup is to maximize the reduction and prevention of agricultural impacts to water quality. Members of this workgroup include the Berks County Conservation District (lead—Lyn O'Hare), EPA, PADEP, PWD, local water suppliers, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Bureau, Pomona Grange, Penn State Extension Service, Hay Creek Watershed Association, Western Berks Water Authority, Reading Area Water Authority, Lehigh County Conservation District, Berks County Conservancy, Aqua America, Berks Farm Bureau, the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, the Lebanon County Conservation District, and others.

Objectives:

- ⇒ 10 miles of streams protected by 2010 (5 as of the end of 2006)
- ⇒ 36 conservation plans completed and implemented by 2010

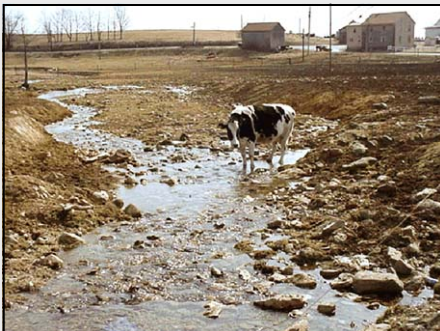
Strategy:

- ⇒ Maintaining the current level of coordination and communication provided by the SAN Agricultural Workgroup; support implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) on priority farms by:
 - ◇ Leveraging opportunities for funding from the state, federal, and local programs for BMP implementation to help fill the funding gap created as SWIG funds are exhausted.
 - ◇ Exploring and implementing market-based opportunities (nutrient trading and/or others) for supporting BMP installation and the viability of farming in the watershed.
- ⇒ Expand the workgroup's capacity to track, monitor, and conduct outreach around BMP needs and successes in key watershed areas.

Completed in 2006:

- ◆ In 2006, the SAN Agriculture Workgroup installed 25,518 ft of stream bank fencing and 5,769 ft of riparian buffer on 9 farm parcels in Berks and Lebanon Counties. Of these 9 farm parcels, 8 are located in the Maiden Creek Watershed, the source of drinking water for the Reading Area Water Authority (RAWA). All pre-implementation water quality, benthic, and visual monitoring for these projects was completed and conservation plans are being completed for each farm.
- ◆ Four farm parcels have been identified for SWIG farm certification funding which will be used to conduct OFAER assessments (On Farm Assessments and Environmental Review) toward PEACCE certification (Pennsylvania Environmental Agriculture Conservation and Certification of Excellence).
- ◆ Exelon funding was obtained for stream bank stabilization at 2 SAN Agricultural BMP projects.
- ◆ Additional landowners are currently being identified for additional Agricultural BMP implementation using the remainder of SWIG funding. ❖

Photos Courtesy of Kristie Fach



*What You Don't Want --
A Cow in the Stream*



Fencing to Keep Out Cows



Cow Crossing

TULPEHOCKEN & QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED GRANTS ANNOUNCED

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) has announced that \$109,400 is available through a grant process for stream restoration, habitat enhancement, and recreational enhancement activities on streams located in the Tulpehocken and Quittapahilla Creek watersheds. This funding is available through a settlement agreement between the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and AES Ironwood, L.L.C. related to the operation of an electric generation facility located in South Lebanon Township, Lebanon County. Only project proposals located within the Tulpehocken and/or Quittapahilla Creek watersheds will be considered. These monies can be used for stand-alone projects or to supplement other funding for larger projects that are designed to improve aquatic habitat, water quality, or recreational use. Examples of acceptable activities include fishery habitat restoration or enhancement; fish stocking; fishing access; maintenance or creation of facilities to encourage, improve or expand recreational use of the fishery; or studies related to these issues.

The program will continue on a regular basis throughout the life of the AES Ironwood Power Plant. Applications must be received by the PFBC no later than June 25, 2007. For more information about applying for this grant program, contact the PFBC at 814-359-5147 or download an application from the agency's web site at <http://www.fishandboat.com>. ❖

BALD EAGLES NESTING IN PHILADELPHIA

Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) officials have confirmed the first known bald eagle nest in Philadelphia County in more than 200 years. Dan Brauning, Game Commission Wildlife Diversity Supervisor, said, "... this demonstrates the resilience of this species and its apparent growing tolerance to human activity. This find is an historic moment that returns some of Pennsylvania's native wildlife to the doorstep of its largest city." In 2006, Game Commission biologists were able to confirm 116 active nests that produced at least 134 young, a new record for bald eagles in Pennsylvania.

The Game Commission, partnering with other states and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service helped to bring bald eagles back from the brink of extinction with reintroductions throughout the Northeast in the 1980s. The effort dovetailed with important gains made in improving water quality, which led to increases in the quality and quantity of freshwater fish, a staple in the eagle's diet.



Nesting Eagles Photo Courtesy of the PA Game Commission

The bald eagle is listed as a "threatened species" by the federal government and Pennsylvania.

Bald eagles were upgraded from "endangered" to "threatened" nationally in 1995; the Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners upgraded them in 2005.

While Game Commission officials will not reveal the exact location of the Philadelphia nest site (to avoid possible disturbance to the nest) if you are interested in seeing eagles, now is a good time. They are sitting on their nests incubating eggs and foliage has not yet reappeared on most trees.

For more information on bald eagles and other endangered and threatened species in Pennsylvania, visit the Pennsylvania Game Commission's website at: <http://www.pgc.state.pa.us>. ❖ *Based on a PGC press release.*

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 12, 2007	SAN Planning Meeting @ EPA
April 14, 2007	Opening Day of Trout for the rest of the State
April 18, 2007	SAN AMD Meeting @ PADEP in Pottsville
April 21, 2007	Great PA Cleanup April 22, 2007 Earth Day
May 8, 2007	SAN Source Water Protection Awards Ceremony
May 9, 2007	SAN Agricultural Meeting in Reading
May 10, 2007	SAN Planning Meeting @ EPA
June 2-8, 2007	Schuykill Sojourn
June 5, 2007	SAN Watershed Land Protection Collaborative
June 14, 2007	SAN Planning Meeting @ EPA

Ideas for the Next Edition ?

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Schuykill River Sojourn 2007 - June 2 to June 8

The Schuykill River Sojourn is a 110 mile guided canoe or kayak trip on the Schuykill River. Beginning in Schuykill Haven and ending in Philadelphia, Sojourn participants register for as many days as they can, or for the entire trip. Sometimes it is wet and wild. At other times it is peaceful and inspiring. There are a few rapids, calm water, plenty of laughs, songs at the campsites, and celebrations in the river towns. There is a little of everything in store for canoers and kayakers who take part in the week-long sojourn down the Schuykill River that begins the first weekend of June. And even though the same route is paddled every year, a different river greets us every June. ❖

To Be Added to the Sojourn Mailing List: Send your snail mail address to: sojourn@schuykillriver.org (not an e-mail list, but a postal mailing list)

SAN Earth Day Clean Up

Mark Your Calendar!

April 21, 2007

Join this ambitious statewide effort to remove litter and trash from Pennsylvania's roadways, parks, forests, riverbanks, neighborhoods and open spaces.

Pennsylvania Participates in the Great American Cleanup

(<http://www.greatpacleanup.org>)

March 1 to May 31

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or

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On the Schuykill River Below Port Clinton

Photo Courtesy of Daniel P. Creighton

For more information about the SAN go to: <http://www.schuykillactionnetwork.org>